

The American Citizen.

BY JOHN F. BOWDITCH.
The Union of the South for the sake of the South
CANTON, MISSISSIPPI.
Saturday Morning, January 25, 1862.

The Yankee Programme.

The Western papers, being benevolently disposed to warn the South in due season, that she may prepare for the wrath to come, have disclosed the Federal programme by an adherence to which we are to be completely crushed and subjugated before the 1st of March. The New York press had previously affirmed that Gen. McClellan had his gripe upon the throat of the South, and would throttle that rebellious section as soon as he was ready; but the Cincinnati Enquirer, with more consideration for our anxious and bewildered state, condescends to furnish us particulars of the mode in which the throttling design is to be accomplished. We are, it seems, to be attacked simultaneously, by land and water, at all points where the pestilent Confederates offer the slightest resistance. An immense column of Yankees, extending from the Potomac through Virginia and Kentucky to the Mississippi, is to envelop the unhappy South within its suffocating coils. Observe with what precision and minuteness the correspondent of the Cincinnati Enquirer delineates the appalling programme:

The Burnside expedition leaves in about ten days on a mission that must necessarily be highly successful; while a fleet of boats will come up the Potomac, Gen. McClellan will advance steadily on Manassas. Banks and Rosecrans will take the enemy in the rear; Cox will strike toward Lewisburg; Garfield will move toward Cumberland Gap; Buell, with his four divisions, toward Nashville; Halleck, Wallace, Grattan, Poote, and others toward Memphis overland, and down the Mississippi river; and the forces at Fort Monroe and Beaufort will move inland to take the enemy in their rear. General McClellan will not "forward" until he is entirely ready, so that a sudden and triumphant victory may be the crowning result of his patience and preparation. The young General, although now confined to his bed by a severe attack of typhoid fever, which has been more severe than has yet been started, announced to one of his staff on Tuesday last, that he left a note to carry out his own plans, and conduct the campaign in accordance with his judgment, the rebellion would be crushed in sixty days after New Year's. The reported attacks on the General, by the Northern Abolition press, charging him with want of activity and unnecessary quiescence on the Potomac, lack of military capacity, &c., are unheeded by the young Napoleon; but when advised by the Executive or Cabinet that the public are clamoring for an advance, the General replies, "Fortunately, they are not all Major-Generals, each superior in rank; they know not what they say."

It must be confessed that gigantic operations are contemplated. The young Napoleon is confident of crushing the rebellion by the beginning of March, if allowed to follow the dictates of his own judgment. The Yankees have very formidable bodies of troops in various directions: near Washington, in Western Virginia, on the coast of South Carolina and Georgia, and in Kentucky and Missouri, with nearly half a million of men, perfectly equipped and provided with the finest weapons of the most approved pattern; with endless supplies of ammunition, forage and provisions, and with immense parks of artillery, and with all appliances and means to boot which can make up the grand total of an immense host—ready, too, at the word of command to commence that forward movement which, they fondly hope and believe, will know no pause in its desolating march, until the baffled and vanquished South tenders unconditional submission. How is it that we are not paralyzed by terror and willing in advance to mitigate the puissant ire of the terrible foe? They have certainly striven hard to frighten us. If constant boasting could avail to disarm us of our courage; if dwelling with uninterrupted iteration on the numerical superiority of Yankeeism could impress the South with a conviction of its feebleness and folly in resistance; if the assurance repeated periodically that we are to be used up and overwhelmed in ninety days, could appal us, there would be some probability that this elaborate programme would fill us with consternation. But the truth is, we have heard so much of all this before; have been treated to so many direful menaces; have been assured so frequently that we were on the brink of destruction, and have so invariably found that it was all bosh, blunder, and bombast, that the people of the South have become woefully incredulous touching Yankee prowess and Yankee exploits. The subjects of King Abraham have compelled us to sup so full of horrors that with Macbeth we may exclaim that

"Dinwiddie, familiar to our slanting thoughts, Cannot once start us."

ous movement against the Confederates from various points. They cannot help themselves. They are compelled to advance by the irresistible pressure of public opinion—a power behind them, a vis a tergo impels them forward, whether they will or not. The people of Yankeeedom are beginning to sicken of a war which is rapidly bankrupting the nation, and has hitherto proved barren in every thing save defeat and disgrace to them. The financial condition of the country is another potent argument in favor of a bold and desperate policy. The Federal exchequer is exhausted; the banks have been depleted almost to the point of ruin, and can bleed no more. A monetary crisis is at hand which, we have the authority of a keen observer in predicting, will be tenfold worse than that of 1837. To delay longer is passively to await destruction. If the South is not reduced to submission in sixty days, the means of maintaining an enormous Northern army in the field, and of supporting a war at an expense of two millions a day, will cease, and baffled Yankeeedom will perforce abandon the attempt at our subjugation. Besides, in sixty days the blockade may be raised; England may be at war with the United States; the Confederates may be recognized; in short, a thousand evils to Yankeeedom loom in the distance. No further time can be lost. One final desperate effort at our reduction must be made. Thus much we believe, but we accept the fact without the slightest apprehension of an adverse result. We are ready for the foe all along the line, and with the blessing of that Providence which has thus far almost visibly shielded and protected us in the hour of peril, we shall repel him as we did at Manassas, Oak Hills, Leesburg, Lexington, and Belmont.

The Freedom of the Press.

The Richmond Examiner has obtained a copy of the bill reported by the military committee in Congress to establish a surveillance over the press of the Confederacy. The bill provides that it shall not be lawful for any person to publish, or cause to be published, in any newspaper or other printed publication, intended for circulation, any information or communication giving the number, disposition, movements, or destination of the land or naval forces of the Confederate States; or the description, destination, cargo, or armament of any vessel engaged in the service of or employed in the transportation of troops, dispatches, or munitions of war for the Confederate States; or the description of any battery, fortification, engine of war, or plan of attack or defense employed, or to be employed by said forces; or of any signal, badge, banner, or flag, which may have been, or may temporarily be employed or adopted by the commanding officer of any post, district, or expedition of the Confederate States, unless the publication thereof shall be first authorized by the President or Congress, or the Secretary of War, or of the Navy, or of the commanding officer of such post, district, or expedition. Persons violating this act are to be fined in a sum not more than one thousand dollars, and may in the discretion of the court be imprisoned for a period not exceeding twelve months. We are truly glad to see that the papers of the South are unanimous in their condemnation of this encroachment of the liberty of the press. Is the freedom of the press to be abrogated under a government professing to be based upon the true principles of freedom? Is the war on our side to be a sealed mystery? Is the press going to appeal to the people to be patient, when it is not permitted to give them that information which is so essential to patience at the present time?

The press is but the reflex of public opinion, and when it becomes so corrupt and detrimental to our cause as to demand abridgement by the Government, the star of republicanism is set, and the people are ready for a Dictator.

The liberty of the press is a sacred palladium which no influence, no power, no minister, no government, nothing but depravity, folly or corruption, can ever destroy. It should be well guarded. It is the great sentinel of the land, that grand detector of public imposture. Let Congress pass this bill and the freedom of the press would be an empty sound. No man could venture to write on that subject in which we are so deeply interested, however pure his purpose, without an attorney at one elbow, and a counsellor at the other, lest he should trip with his pen an unlawful expression. From minds thus subdued by the terrors of punishment there can issue no masterly compositions on the general nature of government, by the help of which the great commonwealth of mankind have founded their establishments. Men cannot communicate their thoughts with a lash held over them; they must be free from restriction to form and influence public sentiment and disseminate good among the people. Liberty is the fast and best gift of God to His creatures, and must be taken just as she is. Curtail her of her fair proportions, shape her into a perfect model of severe law, and she is liberty no longer. Let the Government take hold of the reins of liberty, and the cohesion is loosened—everything hastens to decay.

We trust that there are statesmen in our Congress who have not forgotten or ignored the first principles of Anglo-Saxon liberty—men who will not permit the Government to lay its hand upon the freedom of the press, so long as the people are capable of self-government. We hope that the guardian spirit has hovered over us since our troubles began, and whose providence has guarded and superintended our transactions, will direct and fortify the judgments of those whom we have sent to Congress to guard our affairs.

The press has battled manfully since the beginning of the war, and if not mightier than the sword, has been a powerful auxiliary in arousing the people to a proper sense of their duty, and filling the fields with brave and gallant soldiers. It is wrong to say it has betrayed government and military secrets. There may have been some few instances where editors have disclosed some secrets, but for those few exceptions must liberty, the dearest gift ever bequeathed to mankind, fall? If it does, there will be such a peace throughout our borders as there is in Vesuvius or Atna the very moment before they vomit forth their lava and roll their conflagrations over the land.

[Vicksburg Whig.]

The Emancipation Plan in the U. S. Congress.

We find in the New York Express, of the 7th inst, the text of the circular and petition to the U. S. Congress, of which we have already had intimations in late telegraphic dispatches and brief details of Congressional proceedings, inviting the Federal Congress to overthrow slavery.

The Express, in introducing these precious documents to the attention of its readers, significantly characterizes them as an attempt "to abolish our overshadowing attachment to the Union," and to revolutionize this, a Federal Union, into a despotic consolidated Union, with monarchical power over the States."

The heading of the "Circular" is in these words:

The undersigned having prepared with care and after mature deliberation the accompanying petition on the subject of "Emancipation" recommend it to the public for general adoption and circulation. Copies may be obtained from either of the subscribers. New York, December, 1861.

And this is signed by William Cullen Bryant—the once Federalist, afterwards Democratic, and now Abolition post—editor of the N. Y. Evening Post, by Judge J. W. Edmonds, of spiritualistic and rapping medium fame, by "Reverend" Dr. Geo. B. Cheever, the fanatical parson of the Church of the Puritans in New York, Wm. Cusins Noyes, a renegade Whig, and some dozen or fifteen others of that stripe. And here is the form of the petition:

To the President of the United States and to Congress:

The people of the United States represent: That they recognize as lying at the very foundation of our Government, on which has been erected the fabric of our free institutions, the solemn and undying truth that by nature all men are endowed with an unalienable right to liberty.

That so far as this great truth has been in any respect departed from by any of our people, or by any course of events, the toleration of such departure has been caused by an overshadowing attachment to the Union, and by conscientious fidelity to those with whom we had voluntarily united in forming a great example of free government.

That such a departure—whether willing or unwilling, whether excusable or censurable—has, nevertheless, given birth to a mighty power in our midst—a power which has consigned four millions of our people to slavery, and arrayed six millions in rebellion against the very existence of our Government, which for three-quarters of a century has disturbed the peace and harmony of the nation, and which has now armed nearly half a million of people against that Union which has been hitherto so dear to the lovers of freedom throughout the world.

That by the very act of the slave power itself we have, all of us, been released from every obligation to tolerate any longer its existence among us.

That we are admonished—and day by day the conviction is gathering strength among us—that no harmony can be restored to the nation, no peace brought back to the people, no perpetuity secured to our Union, no permanence established for our government, no hope elicited for the continuance of freedom, until slavery shall be wiped out of the land, utterly and forever.

Therefore, we who now address you, as co-heirs with you in the great inheritance of freedom, and as freemen of America, most earnestly urge upon the President and upon Congress—

That, amid the varied events which are constantly occurring, and which will more and more occur during the momentous struggle in which we are engaged, such measures may be adopted as will secure emancipation to all people throughout the whole land, and thus complete the work which the revolution begun.

[Telegraphed to the Vicksburg Whig.]

MISSISSIPPI LEGISLATURE.

JACKSON, Jan. 22.—The Senate passed a bill authorizing minors to be bound in certain cases.

Mr. McLain introduced a bill instructing the Judiciary Committee to inquire into the expediency of paying the marshals appointed by the United States in 1860 to take the census.

The Senate passed a bill to suspend the collection of the ten per cent. levee tax in Bolivar, Washington and Issaquena counties.

The House passed bills for the relief of the debtors of the school fund; to provide for the payment of costs in prosecutions against slaves; to re-charter the Commercial Bank of Manchester; to amend the charter of the Columbus Life Insurance Company and Mississippi Mutual Insurance Company; for the relief of W. F. Stearns, T. J. Wharton and D. Mays, counsel in a Bond suit against the State.

An additional \$50,000 was appropriated for the hospitals in Virginia. Numerous local bills were passed.

Richmond Intelligence.

We glean the following items from our Richmond exchanges:

The report of the evacuation of Romney by the Federals is confirmed. No particulars are given other than that the evacuation took place on Friday last, and the town was occupied by our troops on the succeeding Saturday morning; and that the enemy abandoned a large quantity of military stores, which fell into our hands.

It is generally understood that the President has decided to appoint Gen. Van Dorn to take command as Major General of the Department of Missouri and Arkansas.

We learn that the Federal steamer Pensacola, which lately succeeded in running the blockade of the Potomac, is rated as one of the most formidable vessels of the enemy. She has, it is said, a very heavy armament. In addition to her broadsides of twenty-two 9-inch shell guns, she has one 11-inch gun and two 80 pounders.

Several of the largest and most respectable dry goods establishments in this city have been closed on account of the difficulty in replenishing their stocks. Our cloth manufacturers are growing rapidly, but are at present taxed almost up to their capacity for army supplies. The manufacture of fine cloths, however, has been started here by the Crenshaw Mills. The Government has made large contracts for flour, ranging from \$5 to \$5.50.

The Government is turning its attention to the direct encouragement of special branches of manufacturing industry, and a system of premiums to new enterprises. The effect of this policy on the manufacture in the South of the important article of nitre has been very striking; and the Government is, we learn, now receiving a supply of this article at the rate of six hundred thousand pounds a day.

Our city bankers are selling gold at twenty-eight cents and buying at twenty-one. There is an excellent feeling in Government securities, and bonds of the first fifteen million loan are quoted at two per cent. premium. The Secretary of the Treasury has determined to introduce some changes in the Produce Loan office; and Professor DeBow, the superintendent of the loan, has gone to New Orleans to take charge of a branch of the office to be established in that city.

FROM FORT HENRY.—The Nashville Gazette of the 18th has the following from Fort Henry:

A telegraphic dispatch was received in the city yesterday evening from Fort Henry, stating that the Federals were landing in force about six miles below the garrison, and that an attack was immediately expected. The fleet of gunboats, so long talked about, has undoubtedly moved up the Tennessee river, and we may hear at any moment of a bloody engagement.

These boats, if we take the Northern accounts for granted, are the "finest and most formidable specimens of naval architecture now afloat," and each carries from fifteen to eighteen guns of the most improved manufacture. So if a dozen of them should open upon the fort the small force defending it will certainly have their hands full. We are permitted to publish the following extract from a letter received in this city yesterday from the fort, which is perhaps the latest intelligence by mail from that point:

FORT HENRY, Jan. 15, 1862.

Dear Brother—I received your letter last night, and have but a few moments to reply. The contemplated fight on tomorrow or next day has produced a deep sensation, and we are fully aroused to a sense of our duty. Gen. Tilghman and a portion of his staff have arrived. We are expecting reinforcements here tomorrow. Every man is at work mounting cannon, digging rifle pits, stockades and breastworks. We received last night our

We are all eager for the conflict, and if success will crown the efforts of our army here, Fort Henry will be a place to which more importance in the future will be attached. I can not believe that the force of the enemy will be as great as represented, but one thing is certain, we will be compelled to fight a superior number. We have no sick here; all are effective men.

THE NEW NINTH MISS. REGIMENT.

As a matter of interest to many of the re-enlisted volunteers, who are now absent on furlough, we publish the subjoined extract of an order from Gen. Bragg:

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF PENNSACOLA, NEAR PENNSACOLA, Fla., 13th Jan., 1862.

Special Order No. 13.

I. At the desire of the Secretary of War, Col. Jas. R. Chalmers, 9th Regiment Mississippi Volunteers, and the officers and men recently re-enlisted by him for the formation of a new Regiment, are relieved from duty with this army, and will, at the expiration of the furloughs granted them, rendezvous at Corinth, Miss.; and thence proceed, as soon as organized, to Bowling Green, Ky., and report to General A. S. Johnston.

II. Stern necessity compels the Commanding General to withhold the arms these gallant men have used so creditably in their service at this place. Colonel Chalmers will, therefore, turn over to the Ordnance Department, before leaving here, all arms, accoutrements, and ammunition which may have been in their use.

By command of Maj. Gen. Bragg.
GEO. G. GARNER,
Assistant Adjutant General.

Messrs. D. E. Ray and B. C. Kirk, two Kentucky gentlemen, on a visit to Pensacola, have presented Gen. Bragg with a beautiful thoroughbred mare, valued at \$700 or \$800.

BOARD OF POLICE.

A special meeting of the Board of Police of Madison county was held at the Court House in Canton on Monday the 20th day of January, 1862, pursuant to notice according to law.

Present.—J. R. Powell, President; George J. Hulme, Thos. L. Hart, W. C. Love, C. C. Cooper, members; George Ward, Clerk; A. R. Haddox, Sheriff.

The petition of W. R. Stuart, and others, for leave to make a change in the road from Canton by R. E. Leonard's to Bear Creek, was this day presented, and being well considered, it is

Ordered, That said petitioners be and are hereby authorized to make the change in said road as prayed for in said petition.

The petition of Isaac N. Herrod, signed by a number of the citizens of the city of Canton and of Police District No. 1, for a license to said Herrod to retail vinous and spirituous liquors in said city of Canton, was this day received and ordered to be filed and laid over until the next meeting of this Board.

The petition of J. M. Hale and other citizens of the city of Canton and of Police District No. 1, for a license to said Hale to retail vinous and spirituous liquors in said city of Canton for one year, was this day received and ordered to be filed and laid over until the next meeting of this Board.

The annual report of John B. Moore, Overseer of the Poor in Police District No. 5, of number of paupers and amount of relief afforded in said District for the year 1861—the amount being \$250.25—was this day received and ordered to be filed.

The petition of C. G. Sanders and others, citizens of Madison county, living on and near the Canton and Moore's Bluff road, for a change in said road near Capt. A. Sneed's, was this day received and ordered to be laid over until the next meeting of this Board.

The following accounts were allowed and ordered to be paid out of any moneys in the county treasury not otherwise appropriated, to-wit:

To E. T. Wallis, for a cow for Hannah, a pauper,	\$30 00
To Sarah Ballard, for board of Eliza Ray and two children, paupers, from 1st Sept. 1861, to 1st January, 1862, 60 days	60 00
To O. Van Vactor, for publishing proceedings of Board of Police six months, to January 1st, 1862,	25 00
To E. L. Thompson, for board of Robt. Graham, a pauper child, from January 1861, to January 1862, at \$2 per month,	64 00
To F. Russell, for support of Mrs. Williams, a pauper, for three months, from 1st Oct. to 1st Jan. 1862,	30 00
To A. R. Haddox, Sheriff, for hire of boy in cleaning up Courthouse yard,	6 00
To James Kelly, for board of George Butcher, a pauper, from 18th Sept. to 1st Jan. 1862,	70 00
To same for balance due on board of same 3 months, to 18th Sept.,	15 00
To C. C. Coleman, for assessed value of four trees on bridge on county road,	10 30
To Mrs. M. M. Smith, for board, &c. of C. Nelson, a pauper, 3 months to Jan. 1st, 1862,	40 00
To W. A. Sneed and Co. for one year pass for Morgan Ivy, confined in county jail,	2 50

The application of W. P. Smith for a renewal of his license to retail vinous and spirituous liquors for the year 1862, was this day considered, and, on motion, it is

Ordered, That said license be renewed, and that the Clerk of this Board be and is hereby directed to issue a license to said Smith, on his executing a bond with security, to be approved by the said Clerk, and payment of the sum of two hundred and seventy-five dollars license tax.

Ordered, That the following named persons be and are hereby appointed leaders of patrol for Beats respectively named in Police Districts Nos. 4 and 5 for the present year:

At Herrod's—Jeff. Grafton, Everett Tucker.
At Camden—Josiah Simpson, R. W. Nichols, and W. C. Abel on Lott's estate.
Dist. No. 4—Leroy P. Thompson, in place of James Brown.
Dist. No. 3—James Balfour, in place of W. W. Montgomery.

GRAND JURORS.

Ordered, That the following named persons be and are hereby appointed Grand Jurors in the Districts respectively named, for the ensuing term of the Circuit Court of Madison county and State of Mississippi, to-wit:

District No. 1—T. J. Love, C. W. Wood, J. H. Chestnam, R. C. Saunders.
Dist. No. 2—John D. Hartsook, Jas. L. Andrews, J. A. Glover, A. B. Treadwell.
Dist. No. 3—A. H. Dinkins, G. C. Johnson, J. W. Griffin, B. B. Nicholson.
Dist. No. 4—John A. Magruder, S. V. Lockett, D. H. Gilmer, Jesse Brown.
Dist. No. 5—J. P. George, F. Russell, Willis Nichols, John S. Tucker.

INSPECTORS OF ELECTION.

Ordered, That the following named persons be and are hereby appointed inspectors of Election at the different precincts named, for the election for Auditor of Public Accounts, to be held on Monday the 10th day of February, 1862, to-wit:

District No. 1—Wm. McBride, W. J. Kendall, Canton.
District No. 2—J. K. Kearney, A. B. Treadwell, Vernon.
P. O. Cornelius, Thos. W. Davis, Wall's School House.
District No. 3—Thos. J. Smith, James E. Mhoos, Madisonville.
B. B. Nicholson, Garrett Goodloe, Livingston.
J. A. Forrest, William Simmons, Battle Springs.
Lafayette Montgomery, H. C. Bennett, Madison Station.
District No. 4—J. J. Lumar, David Wood, Sharon.
Robert Clanton, George G. Lockett, Sulphur Springs.
District No. 5—Jeff. Grafton, J. W. Suber, Herrod's.
Harvey Evans, J. M. Walker, Camden.

Ordered, That the Trustees of Schools and School Funds in Township No. 9, Range 6 East, be, and they are hereby directed to hold an election in said Township for five Trustees of Schools and School Lands in said Township.

Ordered, That J. R. Powell, President, is hereby authorized and requested to correspond with the Governor of the State in relation to the arms furnished by the citizens of this county upon the call

of the Governor, and to inquire what steps have been taken to pay the assessed value of said arms.

Ordered, That E. G. Carson be appointed Overseer of the Swamp Bridge road in place of John Handy, and to command same hands.

Ordered, That Walter Wallace be and is hereby directed to work his road to the Exum's Ferry road.

Ordered, That W. H. Patten be appointed Overseer of the Livingston and Calhoun Depot road from the depot to the forks of the road, to command the same hands as heretofore appointed on said road.

Ordered, That the Board of new adjourn until the third Monday in February.
J. R. POWELL, President.
GEORGE WARD, Clerk.

TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.

FROM SAVANNAH.

Capture of Cedar Keys, Florida.

SAVANNAH, Jan. 22.—The Republican of this morning, says: In the Confederate Court, on Monday last, Capt. D. P. Martin, charged with absconding with the yacht Wanderer, was found guilty. The News learns from a gentleman from Florida, that Cedar Keys was captured by the Federals on Thursday last. The News says heavy firing was heard in the direction of Cedar Keys the same day, which renders the statement probable.

FROM MOBILE.

MOBILE, January 22.—The schooner Wilder, from Havana, loaded with cigars and sundries, was captured on the 20th inst., thirteen miles below Fort Morgan. The following is the dispatch, relative to the capture, received here:

Fort Morgan, Jan. 21.—Capt. Cuttill, with his command, had a sharp and creditable contest yesterday, at the mouth of the Lagoon, over the schooner Wilder. No loss of life on our side. The enemy lost a ship's gig and a number of men, but succeeded in taking possession of the vessel and cargo.

FROM CHARLESTON.

CHARLESTON, Jan. 22.—The blockading fleet of Charleston harbor, on yesterday, numbered thirteen vessels. The recent arrivals are sail vessels.

FROM NASHVILLE.

Heavy Rain Impedes the Federal Movement.

LINCOLNITES IMPROVE FORTIFICATIONS ON GREEN RIVER.

NASHVILLE, Jan. 22.—The Fort Henry correspondent of the Union and American says the Confederate steamer Danbar went down the Tennessee river on the 17th inst., within twenty-five miles of Paducah, and reports she saw no gunboats.

Scouts from Fort Henry report the Federal force at Murray, Ky., to be from six to ten thousand infantry, 2,000 cavalry, and 13 pieces of artillery. The heavy rains of the 15th and 16th retarding the water courses, and roads almost impassable, which impede their movements.

Intelligence direct from Green river states that the Federals, instead of making a forward movement, have begun erecting fortifications on the south bank of the river. A heavy freshet in Green river has washed away Bass's pontoon bridge, and also damaged the woodwork and repairs of the railroad bridge.

FROM RICHMOND.

RICHMOND, Jan. 22.—Nothing is known of the proceedings in Congress to-day. The Virginia Legislature is principally occupied in talking about the election of Confederate Senators. The House favored going into an election to-day, but the Senate proposed delay until the 4th of February. Joint committees are appointed to report the matter to-morrow at noon.

THE WAR IN KENTUCKY.—The Memphis Avalanche, of Monday last, has the following:

A gentleman who reached the city in the late train last night, states that the Federals, to the number of about twenty thousand, were advancing upon Paris and Danville, Tenn., and had already passed Farmington, Ky., on their way to the points designated. Farmington is in the vicinity of Paducah.

When our informant passed Danville and Paris, great excitement prevailed, and the Federals were hourly expected. It is supposed that the 20,000 here spoken of constituted a part of the immense force which lately left Cairo for Tennessee river, the remainder having probably been detailed to look after Forts Henry and Donelson, which, at last accounts were still in the quiet possession of our troops, who, confident of success, anxiously await the approach of the enemy.

If the Federals should reach Danville and Paris, they will undoubtedly seek to destroy the railroad and telegraphic lines, and thus cut off communication between Memphis and Bowling Green. A few days—perhaps a few hours—may bring startling intelligence.

At the late session of our Legislature, a law was passed subjecting any slave holder to a fine of not less than \$200 nor more than \$1000, who suffers his slaves to be quartered at any distance over one mile from the residence of the master, unless an overseer or other able-bodied white man shall be kept with them.

General Earl Van Dorn passed through Knoxville, Tenn., on the 16th inst., the Register says, to assume the command to which he has been assigned, as chief of the Department of Missouri and Arkansas.